

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs, 10th District

Chair, Finance & Audit Committee
Chair, Task Force on Work Reform for Men

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For Immediate Release
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SOUNDING THE ALARM ON SWINE FLU CASES IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Crisis situation must be remedied by local elected officials and health care community

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs released the following statement regarding swine flu deaths in Milwaukee County:

"It is unfortunate that the number of swine flu cases and deaths in Milwaukee County and the State of Wisconsin are among the highest in the nation. What is causing the number of cases in Milwaukee in skew so high? What makes us different than other large cities? Why does Milwaukee have more cases than all of California? What have these other municipalities done that Milwaukee has not? Someone is dropping the ball here.

"The disproportionate deaths that have occurred among children and adults of color I find particularly bothersome. It appears that our young people are not being properly diagnosed and are dying. This is a crisis, and I am disappointed that no action is being taken to remedy this problem, which is at risk of growing out of control in Milwaukee's central city neighborhoods.

"Who is going to sound the alarm? I am, for one. After attending numerous public events and activities, I have not noticed any extra attention to providing safe and sanitary conditions for the public. Action must be taken immediately. I call on officials from all levels of government and health care in Milwaukee County to step up to the plate and solve this crisis. We cannot afford to lose any more of our precious children."